

Message Text

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ACTION EA-14

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ADP-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03

INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01 PRS-01 SS-15

USIA-15 OMB-01 AF-10 EB-11 ACDA-19 SCI-06 INT-08

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FM AMEMBASSY CANBERRA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1529

INFO USIA WASHDC

AMEMBASSY SINGAPORE

AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY WELLINGTON

UNCLAS CANBERRA 4610

E.O. 11652 N/A

TAGS: PFOR/AS

REF: OTTAWA 1925C -SINGAPORE 3200C

ON AUGUST 13 PM WHITLAM APPEARED ON FOREMOST AUSTRALIAN
CURRENT AFFAIRS PROGRAM "MONDAY CONFERENCE". RECORDED IN
OTTAWA ON AUGUST 8, PM WAS QUESTIONED BY ALLAN BARNES 'AGE'
CORRESPONDENT; MISS BOLA ONAJITE, NIGERIAN TV REPRESENT-
ATIVE; L. PATRICK KEATLEY 'GUARDIAN' CORRESPONDENT AND
ROBERT MOORE, PRODUCER. LIVELY DISCUSSION CENTERED ON
STATEMENTS MADE DURING COMMONWEALTH CONFERENCE AND REVEALED
WORLD RANGING ATTITUDES OF PM WHITLAM.
ASKED WHETHER HE AND PM LEE OF SINGAPORE HAD DIFFERENT VIEWS
ON WORLD POLITICS PM DESCRIBED LEE AS "EXTRAORDINARILY PESS-
AMISTIC-- CONSERVATIVE--- DEPLORING ANY CHANGES." HE SAID:
"...THE ONLY TASTE OF PARLIAMENTARY LIFE THAT MR. LEE NOW
GETS (IS) AT A COMMONWEALTH CONFERENCE."

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ANSWERING A QUESTION ON ATTITUDES TO AFRICA P.M.

REPLIED: "...THERE IS NO WHITE AUSTRALIA POLICY NOW. ---THE AUSTRALIAN GOVERNMENT WILL SUPPORT EVERY INTERNATIONAL ENDEVOUR TO BRING DOWN THE GOVERNMENT OF ZIMBABWE, SOUTHERN RHODESIA.---WE WILL SUPPORT EVERY INTERNATIONAL ENDEVOUR TO CHANGE THE POLICY OF THE MINORITY GOVERNMENT IN SOUTH AFRICA, AND ALSO, I SUPPOSE, I SHOULD ADD THAT WE WILL SUPPORT EVERY INTERNATIONAL ENDEVOUR TO GIVE FREEDOM TO PORTUGAL'S COLONIES, ANGOLA, MOZAMBIQUE, LISOURT." PRESSED AS TO EXTENT OF HIS SUPPORT FOR, TRADE SANCTIONS AGAINST SOUTH AFRICA PM SAID HE WOULD SUPPORT OTHER "SIGNIFICANT" TRADE PARTNERS. "THE UNITED STATES AND BRITAIN ARE THE OTHER VILLAINS" HE DECLARED.

ON THE UGANDAN EXPULSION OF ASIANS THE PM SAID HE COULD "UNDERSTAND" GENERAL GOWON'S ATTITUDE TO THE SITUATION BUT WAS "NOT IMPRESSED" BY IT. HE CITED KENYA'S HANDLING OF A SIMILAR SITUATION AND SAID"... BUT NOBODY SHOULD GET THE IDEA THAT GENERAL GOWON WAS SUPPORTING GENERAL AMIN." ASKED WHAT HE THOUGHT ABOUT BRITAIN'S FAILURE TO OBJECT TO FRENCH NUCLEAR TESTS PM SAID". " I THINK ITS UNHELPFUL, BUT AS I THINK I SAID BEFORE, MR. HEATH IS A THOROUGHLY, CONSISTENTLY, FORTHRIGHTLY, NEGATIVE MAN. --HE HASN'T BEEN SO STUBBORN AND DISRUPTIVE AS HE WAS AT THIS FIRST CONFERENCE IN SINGAPORE 2 1/2 YEARS AGO WHEN HE ALMOST WRECKED THE COMMONWEALTH. AT LEAST NOW HE'S NOT BEING PROVOCATIVE; HE'S BEING DEFENSIVE."

ASKED WHY MALTA AND SINGAPORE FAILED TO BACK HIS OBJECTION TO FRENCH TESTS PM SAID: "MR. LEE FEARS CHINA--MR. MINTOF, HAS RECEIVED MORE AID FROM CHINA THAN HE HAS FROM POSSIBLY THE REST OF THE WORLD PUT TOGETHER. MAYBE CHINA IS MORE CONCERNED AT THE RUSSIANS'S USING MALTA THAN THE NATO COUNTRIES NOW ARE."

QUESTIONED ON MULTI NATIONAL CORPORATIONS AS A CONFERENCE ISSUE HE SAID:WELL, IN A NUTSHELL ITS MULTI NATIONAL CORPORATIONS ARE THE ELEMENT BY WHICH BRITAIN WOULD NOW SEEK TO DOMINATE COMMONWEALTH COUNTRIES IN LIEU OF THE STERLING AREA; THE IMPERIAL PREFERENCES; THE MILITARY AND ECONOMIC ADMINSTRATIVE ARRANGEMENTS OF THE PAST. THE UNCLASSIFIED

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MULTI NATIONAL CORPORATIONS, AS MR. HEATH SHOWED BY HIS REACTION, ARE WHAT BRITAIN NOW SEES FOR HER IN THE COMMONWEALTH."

AS TO AUSTRALIA, HE SAID MULTI NATIONLS AND SHIPPING "...DOMINATED THE MINERAL DISCOVERIES AND USAGES OF THE 1960'S AND 70' IN AUSTRALIA AND THAT THEY DOMINATED AUSTRALIA'S TRADE BECAUSE , YOU KNOW, WE'RE THE 12TH

LARGEST TRADING COUNTRY IN THE WORLD AND LESS THAN TWO PERCENT
OF OUR TRADE GOES IN AUSTRALIAN SHIPS"

---" THE BIG THING THAT HAS CANGED THIS CONFERENCE IS
THAT AUSTRALIA AND NEW ZEALAND NOW LINE UP WITH CANADA."
ASKED WHAT HE WOULD DO TO ENSURE AUSTRALIA BECAME "MASTER
OF ITS OWN DESTINY" THE PM SAID: "WELL , FROM NOW ON, IN
THE USE OF OUR MINERALS, IN THE ENCOURAGEMENT WE GIVE
TO NEW INDUSTRIES, IN THE PATTERN OF OUR TRADE, WE WILL
SET OUT TO SEE THAT AUSTRALIANS HAVE A BIGGER SHARE; THAT
THE PARTNERSHIP WITH MULTI NATIONAL CORPORATIONS, WHICH
YOU NEED, IS MORE EQUAL."

EXPANDING ON HIS THEORY THAT HEATH SAW BENEFITS OF THE
COMMONWEALTH IN PROSPECTS FOR BRITISH OVERSEAS DEVELOP-
MENT MR. WHITLAM SAID HE WOULD NOT REFUTE THE QUESTIONER'S
SUGGESTIONTHAT MR. HEATH WAS A "MOUTHPIECE FOR THE
CITY OF LONDON" OR AN "ADVOCATE FOR INVESTORS."
GREEN

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